Makes Argument Before the ment could do the same," said Senator ment could do the same," said Senator works.

Mr. Edson said that he did not wish, asking for some permanent form of the same permanent form of th of Congress.

UPHOLDS HALF AND HALF AND COMMISSION SYSTEM

Would Give People Voice Without Weakening the Powers of Congress.

A strong plea for suffrage in the District of Columbia, so far as concerns for the President and Vice President of the United States and for senators and representatives in Congress from the District of Columbia was made before the congressional committee investigating the fiscal relations between the District and the federal government yesterday afternoon by John Joy Edson.

Mr. Edson, however, would have the commission form of government reretained as at present, with Congress the paramount authority in the tional Capital He did not think, he in any way the authority of the Congress over the District.

Defends Half and Half.

Mr. Edson gave his views regarding on these national matters in connection with his defense of the half-and-half plan. He said that the people of the District are as intelligent as those of any of the states, that they are more numerous than the peoples of six states which now are represented by their

Edson began his statement to the never been any permanent fixed form of government for the District. He said that he thought this a mistake, and that the framers of the Constitution

should have made some provision for such a government of the District.

Agent of Congress Only. "What benefits do the people of the District derive from the present form of government, which has no real au-

thority?" asked Senator Works. "The present form of government car only act as the agent of Congress," said

Seventy Years Without Vote.

"I am seventy years old," said Mr. Edson, "and I have never voted."

"Suppose your plan were adopted," aid Senator Works, "how much farther yould you go in the matter of self-covernment?"

f government retained here, with the ommissioners appointed by the Presi-ent," replied Mr. Edson. He explained that there were some things in the District, such as the schools, which the people could well handle for them-Representative Gard asked if Mr. Ed-

son would have senators and repre-sentatives elected in the District just as in the states, with full voice in

as in the states, with full voice in Congress and vote.

"Yes," said Mr. Edson. "We have no one to speak for us now in Congress." He explained that it was much the same as if strangers went to an American city and acted as a board of aldermen, though entirely unconversant with the needs of the city. He told how in the days of Speaker Read which now are represented by their full quota of senators and representatives in Congress, and that there was no reason why they should be deprived of the right of voting for President. He argued that they had a right to ask for representatives in the Senate and House to deal with national legislation and also to act as spokesmen for the people of the District in Congress.

versant with the needs of the city. He told how in the days of Speaker Reed to he and others had gone to the Speaker and protested because no District legislation was enacted, though the District calendar was piled high.

Senator Works said that it hardly ever happened that District committees of the Senate and House did not know a good deal about conditions in the District. Mr. Edson said that he had reference more particularly to comhad reference more particularly to com-mittees of the House, especially after a change of party in power.

Population of the Future.

Senator Works asked Mr. Edson whe

he expected the population of the Dis trict to reach a million or a million and a half. Mr. Edson said he thought his grandchildren would see such

population here. "If you abolish the half and half," said Mr. Edson, turning to that question, "you will have to find some equivalent for it. It is fixed and definite, and do not believe that you can find any-

only act as the agent of Congress," said
Mr. Edson.

"Any bureau of the federal government could do the same," said Senator
Works.
Mr. Edson said that he did not wish, in asking for some permanent form of government in the District, to convey the idea that he believed Congress should not have full authority over the District.

"Congress should sympathize with the people of the District," he said, "whose rights of suffrage have been taken away. The people here ought to have the right to vote for President and Vice President of the United States. They should have the right to elect senators and representatives to represent them in Congress. The population here is larger than in six of the states; the character of the population compares favorably with that of the population in the states.

Seventy Years Without Vote.

I do not believe that you can find anything better."

"But the half-and-half plan can be changed by Congress at any time now," said Senator Works gave it credit for. He said that as president of the board of charities of the board of charities of the board of Congress, "My experience with committees of Congress," he said, "leads me to believe that if you make indefinite the share to be paid by the federal government political situations will arise that will cause the trimming of appropriations would vanish sometimes."

"How do the people throughout the dountry feel toward the National Capital." asked Senator Works.

Mr. Edson said that he thought the half-and-half plan can be changed by Congress at any time now," said Senator Works gave it credit for. He said that as president of the board of charities of the board o

People Proud of Capital. "But I recall that a member of Con gress told me he would vote against explained later that he had lived in Washington since he was seventeen years old. He said that the population was growing and soon would reach the 500,000-mark in the District.

"Some day," said Mr. Edson, "it will reach a million. It won't do to have this situation continue. Nothing is so plain to me as that. And I hope that consideration."

gress told me he would vote against a bill appropriating \$10,000,000 to build the Congressional Library; that he did not believe the farmers of the country would approve of spending any such amount of money for a library building here. The bill was cut to \$8,000,000 and finally passed. Since then I have had occasion to take many farmers will give the matter some then I have had occasion to take many farmers through the library, and I never heard any of them protest then I have had occasion to take many farmers through the library, and I never heard any of them protest against the expenditure of money for the building. Every one of them seemed proud that the capital should have such a building."

Mr. Edson said that he had never in his experience before congressional committees, heard any one oppose an

committees, heard any one oppose an appropriation for the District on the ground that half of the money was to come from the federal treasury. come from the federal treasury.

Senator Works pointed out, however, that in debates in Congress in recent years there had been considerable such opposition to appropriations for the District. He said that he thought the District. He said that he thought that was the cause of the controversy and the appointment of the present committee of investigation.

"You gentlemen are here," said Mr. Edson, "because of the George report on taxation in the District, if you will pardon me. The George report created a terrible impression on Congress, on the country and on the people of the District.

Mr. George Misled.

"Mr. George is an upright man and anxious to be just. But he was misled and misinformed. The George report created a terrible impression, too, on business in the District."

"What is the feeling of the people in the District in regard to the half-and-

the District in regard to the half-and-half plan," Mr. Edson was asked.

"There are not 5 per cent of the people here who want a change," he replied. He added that he supported the half-and-half plan because he thought it was fair, and that he always tried to be fair in everything.

He said that he thought that real estate in Washington is overassessed, and gave as his reason the agitation against the half-and-half plan, which has reduced the values of real estate. "You can't sell property here now, he said. "Then, too, there are so many houses being erected on the outskirts of the city, reached by car lines now, the city, reached by car lines now, with all modern improvements, that the older houses in the city are not in de-mand. There are more vacant houses here than ever before. Property that was valued at \$7,000 two or three years ago you could buy now for

Suggests Plan of Assessments.

Mr. Edson suggested a plan by which he assessments of District property could be equalized. He suggested that the board of assessors, three or five, should sit every day, and that it should should sit every day, and that it should have the power to change assessments whenever conditions were called to their attention that warranted change. "Why shouldn't the assessment on property be changed any day?" he asked. "There is no reason. There would be equalization of assessments under such a plan, and far more justice."

under such a plan, and far more justice."

He took up the question of a surplus under the half-and-half plan, which had been suggested by witnesses earlier in the hearing.

"There would be no surplus if Congress would appropriate for all the needs of the District," said Mr. Edson. He said that the estimates of the District Commissioners were carefully prepared and warranted action by Congress: that the Commissioners were high class men and had always been so. "Weren't you offered the position of District Commissioner in the past?" asked Mr. Worthington of the joint citizens' committee.

"He took up the question of a surplus under the half-and-half plan, which had been suggested by witnesses earlier or and Mr. Colladay informed him that there are organizations here—clubs, he called them—which are supposed to exist for the purpose of controlling the appointment of national committeemen, but which he presumed were really for the purpose of influencing patronage.

"From all I can hear," Senator Works wanted to know what noblitical organizations there are in Washington and Mr. Colladay informed him that there are organizations here—clubs, he called them earlied the purpose of controlling the appointment of national committeemen, but which he presumed were really for the purpose of influencing patronage.

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"Yes," answered Mr. Edson, "I was
offered the position by four different
Presidents of the United States.

Would Have Saved Money.

He said that if Congress had followed the recommendations of the Commission-ers contained in their estimates the govrnment would have been better off today, representatives." as well as the city, for it would have

aved money.

Mr. Edson said that he for one did not Mr. Edson said that he for one did not take any stock in the argument that the revenues of the District would not be used for so-called national improvements to be proper for men interested in legislation to lay their views before members here, such as the creation of Rock Creek of Congress.
Mr. Colladay sald he was glad to hear

Park.

"I don't object to our paying one-half for the purchase of Rock Creek Park and its upkeep," said Mr. Edson.

He urged that more power be given the District Commissioners and Congress relieved of the bother of caring for many details of the District government which now take up its time.

When Mr. Edson was through with his direct testimony, Herbert J. Browne read to him quotations from Mr. Edson's testimony before the Tom L. Johnson committee of the House investigating District

mony before the Tom L. Johnson commit-tee of the House investigating District affairs in 1892. In this testimony Mr. Edson said that he thought if taxes were levied only on land and not on improve-ments it would have a beneficial effect on building and on the character of homes erected. Mr. Browne, who has advocated the single tax plan, offered Mr. Edson's testimony before the Johnson committee to indicate that he, too, favored such a plan.

"I don't want the committee," replied
Mr. Edson, "to get the idea from this
that I am a single taxer; I am not."

Mr. Worthington, for the citizens' committee, Col. M. M. Parker took the stand.
Col. Parker declared himself to be very that I am a single taxer; I am not."

He said he knew Tom L Johnson well, and that he was connected with a building association which made loans to people of moderate means to build homes. He said that he had intended to convey in his testimony that if a land tax had been started with it would have benefited the building of homes, but that he was opposed to attempting to make the change where the community is already built up.

well, and that he was connected with a building association which made loans to people of moderate means to build homes. He said that he had intended to convey in his testimony that if a land tax had been started with it would have benefited the building of homes, but that he was opposed to attempting to make the change where the community is already built up.

Rules Out Single Tax Debate.

Senator Saulsbury at this point ruled that any further discussion of the single tax problem was out of order.

The giving of Mr. Edson's testimony and opinions concluded with the expression of his belief that there should be a fixed rate of taxation in Washington. This out when he asked Mr. Edson this question:

"If Congress permits the law to stand."

this out when he asked Mr. Edson this question:

"If Congress permits the law to stand, which provides that there shall be a fixed rate of \$1.50 per hundred, is it not true that the present attack on the taxation system will keep up?"

Mr. Edson said he thought so, but that while advocating a fixed rate he wanted to say that he believes there are reasons why the people of the District should pay less taxes than in any community.

"Because in the states you have suffrage and you can protect yourselves" "In other communities," Mr. Edson

"In other communities," Mr. Edson said—and he declared it was not necessary to specify them—"20 per cent, 20 per cent and sometimes as much as 40 per cent of the money appropriated from the taxes is money appropriated for corruption. In this city under the half-and-half plan we have never had an accusation of corruption, and by reason of the fact that all of our money that is appropriated is actually used, with none of it going for corrupt purposes, I think we ought to have lower taxes than any other community where

es, paid for by the taxpayers.'

Col. Truesdell Recalled.

Col. Truesdell was recalled to the stand and, at the request of Mr. Worthington, said he had served as a District Commissioner from 1894 to 1897. He was asked by Mr. Worthington wheth-er, during his service as Commissioner, er, during his service as Commissioner, the organic act had been attacked in regard to the half-and-half provisions of taxation. The answer was to the contrary. Col. Truesdell said he did not recall any attempt to repeal the half-and-half provisions. This was presumed to be in reply to Justice Siddons' statement early in the day that the half-and-half provision had been a constant source of irritation and vexation.

Julius Peyser on the Stand.

on the small property owner here. The loreclosure of mortgages

foreclosure of mortgages on small houses in Washington is remarkable in number, as one may see by reading

Criticises the Assessor's Office.

"I believe the assessor's office is con-

lucted in a most unbusinesslike way.

The assessor is very much like the

character in the comic opera 'Wang,'

who was the police depratment, the

fire department and many other activi-

A laugh was raised in the committee

room when the committee was informed of the manifold activities of the assessor's office. It was related by Commissioner Brownlow and others that

form of suffrage in the District.

Representative Cooper asked:

mittee, Col. M. M. Parker took the stand. Col. Parker declared himself to be very much in favor of the continuance of the half-and-half plan, and called the com-

frage and you can protect yourselves at the ballot box when things are done

form of suffrage in the District.

"It is un-American," Senator Works said, "to be governed as you are governed here, without a voice in your own affairs."

"My view of the question before the committee," Mr. Colladay said, "is that it would be well to have the half-and-half system fully restored and literally adimnistered. The half-and-half system of taxaction has not been carried out here for

the newspaper advertisements.

larly that of the site for the Eastern High School, he having been a member of the jury making that condemnation. He said that the condemnation proceedings probably give the best index to values.

"Col. Parker," said Senator Works, "if the people of the District could be assured that Congress would do its duty in the matter of paying the government's share of the capital's expenses, would they be satisfied to do away with the half-and-half plan?"

"You can't give that assurance," said Col. Parker.

"But if that assurance could be given," said Senator Works.

"Then I should say 'Yes'," answered Col. Parker.

Representative Rainey said that the government had never pursued a policy which would make the appropriations for projects in which the government was interested fit the revenues from those projects. He referred to the Yellowstone Park, the operations of the Post Office Department and the government operations in Alaska.

Cites Government Park. Julius Peyser, who said he representand that he could speak for the masses

Cites Government Park.

declared to the committee that most of the middle class and poor people of the "In none of those cases," said Mr Rainey, "has the government failed to appropriate what was required without consideration of what the revenue would be from those projects. Why should you think that the government would adopt a different policy with regard to the District of Columbia?"

city with whom he had come into contact believe that Congress or the federal government should take control of the District of Columbia.

"We ought to have a corporation here." he said, "known as the city of Washington, and also some form of local government. The heads of the local government ought to be elected by the people of the District. There is no criticism of the present heads of the District, however."

Mr. Peyser denied that the bar association had had the right under its by-laws to be represented before the committee of Congress, and he also stated that the gentlemen who are representing the joint citizens' committee before the congressional committee before the congressional committee before the congressional committee do not represent all the people of Washington.

"I do not believe," Mr. Peyser said, "that the large business or mansion property in the District is properly assessed. The burden of taxation falls on the small property owner here. The foreclosure of mortgages on small services. gard to the District of Columbia."

"That's a very nice question, very nicely put," said Col. Parker. "The states and territories in which those projects are located, of course, have been interested in those projects.

"Congress has always been generous to the District of Columbia, up to the last two or three years, when the George report was made. The same influence which has grown up in Congress and caused this investigation may continue to make trouble. If it was not for that influence, I would say that you were right."

you were right."

Col. Parker testified that he had always opposed suffrage in the District that he had never felt any per l loss because he did not have a

said that he had no doubt but He said that he had no doubt but what the present assessor was as honorable and honest a man as could be found in the District for that office.
"But I have no doubt but what the George report had an influence on the assessor in making increases in assessments here." ments here."
Under ordinary conditions, Col. Park-

er said that he thought the assessmen of 1915 would have been fair enough on the whole.

Col. Parker said that he had often thought that the District ought to be represented on the floor of the House by a delegate appointed by the President. He was opposed to having one elected because he was against suf-

Need of Delegate in the House.

missioner Brownlow and others that the assessor must pass on billboard licenses, shooting gallery licenses, must examine applicants for permits to run automobiles and do many other things, all of which, Mr. Persey pointed out, proved that the assessor could not do his work of assessing property in a proper manner for want of time.

Mr. Peyser advocated suffrage in the District, and declared that the residents of the city ought to be given the right to say who should rule over them. "We need some one who knows the situation in the District to speak for us in Congress," he said. "I recall that when I was serving once on a condemnation jury a member of Congress rose on the floor of the House District, and declared that the residents of the city ought to be given the right to say who should rule over them.

E. F. Colladay Gives Views.

E. F. Colladay, president of the Federation of Citizens' Associations, was the next witness, and at the conclusion of his remarks Senator Works declared himself to be much in sympathy with the idea, also advanced by Mr. Colladay, that there should be some Colladay in the District.

gress rose on the floor of the House and said that it was possible to purchase land at \$400 an acrè in Connecticut avenue extended, when, as a matter of £2,000, yet there was no one to deny this in the House."

Representative Cooper here 'interrupted the hearing to state that he had found by personal observation that make statements as being absolutely true when they had not investigated the facts and knew nothing about them.

them., "I recall," he said, "that one member of the House attacked bitterly a prominent citizen of the District, charging that he had attempted from year to

inent citizen of the District, charging that he had attempted from year to year to have Congress buy a piece of property for use a park; that this citizen had come down in price from year to year. The effort was made to show that this citizen had attempted to hold up the government. Yet nothing was ever further from the real facts. I have since discovered that this citizen never owned the property in question, but that the piece of property he did own had been held at the same price from year to year.

"I think that after this investigation the facts that it has developed will tend to stop attacks by members of Congress on prominent citizens in the District unless the members of Congress have facts to back up their statements on the floor of the House."

A. B. Johnson told the committee that the real trouble was that congressmen were enabled to get up and offer bills to change the system of taxation in the District whenever they wanted to, without reference to what the people of the District wanted.

Chairman Chilton said that he would istered. The half-and-half system of tax-ation has not been carried out here for several years. The law has not been lived up to. I think we ought to have a tax appeal board because I do not think the assessors should review their own work. I think, also, we ought to be permitted to vote for presidential electors, repre-sentatives in Congress and one or two senators. I do not think we should elect the District Commissioners. If we have the same representation nationally that the District Commissioners. If we have the same representation nationally that states have, or the same representation in Congress that the states have, I think we ought to be satisfied. So far as the commission form of government for the District is concerned, I think, as Col. Truesdell has said, that that is almost perfect." political organizations there are in Washington and Mr. Colladay informed him that there are organizations here—clubs, he called them—which are supposed to exist for the purpose of controlling the appointment of national committeemen, but which he presumed were really for the authority of the congressmen to offer such bills in the House and

Senate Mr. Thom on the Stand.

Corcoran Thom, vice president of the American Security and Trust Company, member of the citizens' joint committee, the Board of Trade and the Chamber of Commerce, was the next "Why should you be allowed sena-tors or representatives here? You are witness.

tors or representatives here? You are not a state. We don't allow those privileges to territories. Hawaii and the Philippines and Alaska, with greater populations and with larger territory, are not allowed senators or representatives."

Senator Works and Senator Chilton both interjected remarks to show that they have no objection to lobbying in the better sense of the word. They pointed out that they believed it to be proper for men interested in legislation to lay their views before members of Congress.

Mr. Colladay sald he was glad to hear it, as the Federation of Citizens' Associations has quite a number of matter and the citizens of Washington with whom I come in contact are in favor of the alformation. Hawaii and that he favored the plan because he thought on the whole it was fair and that it placed a check on taxation in the District. He said that the District is made good progress under its operation. "If some such plan as suggested by Senator Works could be adopted and the citizens of the District could be given an assurance that the government would pay its full share of the expenses of the capital, it would be the ideal plan," said Mr. Thom. "But I don't know how that assurance could be given."

To the word of the retention of Washington with whom I come in contact are in favor of the retention of the half-and-half plan," said Mr. Thom. He said that the favored the plan because he thought on the whole it was fair and that it placed a check on taxation in the District. He said that the plan because he thought on the whole it was fair and that it placed a check on taxation in the District. He said that the favored the plan because he thought on the whole it was fair and that it placed a check on taxation in the District. He said that the favored the plan because he thought on the whole it was fair and that it placed a check on taxation in the District. He said that the favored the plan because he thought on the whole it was fair and that the favored the plan because he thought on the whole it was fair

Mr. Colladay said he was glad to hear it, as the Federation of Citizens' Associations has quite a number of matters which it desires to bring to the attention of senators and representatives in Congress this winter.

As the result of a number of attempts by Mr. Browne and C. C. Lancaster to ask witnesses before the committee various questions, the committee various questions, the committee various questions, the committee various questions, the committee desire to ask will be asked for them by members of the committee desire to ask will be asked for them by members of the committee, if the latter deem it proper to ask the questions desired.

Responsible for Progress Here.

Assessor Richards was given an opportunity to go on the stand and defend certain assessments made in Chevy Chase which Mr. Colladay had criticised, and after he had finished, at the request of Mr. Worthington, for the citizens' committee the ideal plan, "raid Mr. Thom. "But it don't know how that assurance could be given."

Taking up the question of a surplus rolling up in the District under the half-and-half plan, Mr. Thom said that in his eyes that would be no drawback and the surplus undoubtedly would come in handy for extraordinary improvements in the District. He testified that taking the assessment of 1915 as a whole, it was fair enough. He said that he knew of many instances where the assessment was too high. He cited the case of his own house, at 1725 I street, which he bought several years ago for \$19,000 when the basis of assessment was over \$30,000. He said that the assessment was still practically the same, though he had made an appeal to have it lowered. He spoke also of the properties at 1415 and 1417 G street northwest, which he had the management of, saying that they were assessed at \$150,000, on an assessment basis of \$225,000.

The ner return on the assessment Mr. Colladay said he was glad to hear it, as the Federation of Citizens' Associations has quite a number of matters which it desires to bring to the attention of senators and representatives in Congress this winter.

As the result of a number of attempts by Mr. Browne and C. C. Lancaster to ask witnesses before the committee various questions, the committee voted that in future questions which those not members of the committee desire to ask will be asked for them by members of the committee, if the latter deem it proper to ask the questions desired.

Preparentials for Progress Here

mass of \$225,000.
"The net return on the assessment on these properties," he said, "is about 3 per cent, and on the assessment basis about 2 per cent."

SAYS COLOMBIAN TREATY SHOULD BE DISPOSED OF

Senate Should Pass on Convention as Act of Courtesy, Senator Stone Asserts.

"Common courtesy among nations demands that the Senate dispose of the pending treaty with Colombia in the near future," declared Senator Stone, chairman of the foreign relations committee, in discussing today the affairs which will demand the immediate attention of his committee when Congress convenes.

Mr. Stone declared the Senate should either ratify the treaty in its present form or at least determine that it cannot be ratified in order that further negotiations with the Colombian republic may be instituted.

lic may be instituted.

The principal provision of the pending convention which has been a stumbling block in the foreign relations committee for two years is that the United States shall pay \$25,000,000 to Colombia for the Panama canal strip. Several democratic members of the committee have joined with republicans in contending that the figure is exorbitant.

In County Donegal, Ireland, the mar-ket price for knitting a pair of socks used to be a penny.

Former Senator Butler Asserts Government Should Contribute Three-Fourths.

SPEAKS TO ASSOCIATION OF BRIGHTWOOD CITIZENS

Insanitary Condition of Public School in That Section Subject of Protest.

That Congress should pay more than it does toward the upkeep and beautification of the National Capital, which should be made the greatest city in th world, was the opinion of former Sena-tor Marion Butler of North Carolina, who was a guest and speaker last night before the Brightwood Citizens' Asso school. At the same time the speaker favored the abolition of the half-andhalf plan, provided that Congress would and not as a country town.

In the course of his remarks former senator said that the residents of a free government, but none of the government was located here.

couraged if they didn't get what they wanted at first from Congress. "Be persistent, go after Congress to

pay more than half of the expenses of the National Capital," he said. "Let Congress make this a great national city. Washington cannot be run as a city. Washington cannot be run as a small country town, so let them abolish the half-and-half plan, and as soon as they decide to do this then let them as they decide to do this then let them pay three-fourths of the expenses and then the government can do what it wants to. I have contended all along that the government never has paid enough toward the upkeep of the Capital city. It has just been taking care of the District. It has acted as its agent

tional policies and making the District pay for them. If we could only make Congress do its duty and see the situation as it should, it would pay more to ward the District. The National Capi ward the District. The National Capital has a great future and ought to be twice its present size. If the water power at Great Falls was being utilized today you would have one hundred factories in operation around the city. When Congress lays out a new park the District is not considered, but is expected to pay half, the residents being told that it is a part of the national plan to beautify the National Capital. My advice is not to attack Congress or criticise it, but put all matters in a clear and concise manner and then you have done your duty."

then you have done your duty."
The meeting, which was presided over by Louis P. Shoemaker, was one of the first to be held in a public school since the passage of the act by Congress last year permitting the use of schoolhouses for civic purposes.

of the building, the lack of sufficient was charged that the school was being discriminated against. The necessity of sidewalks in the vicinity of the school was also commented upon, it being stated that hardly a day passes that the children going to and from

school were not exposed to danger of being run over and killed by passing street cars, vehicles and automobiles. So insistent were members present for nsistent were members present for action that several members of the asociation volunteered to serve on

sociation volunteered to serve on a special committee to present the matter to the proper authorities.

A strong protest was lodged against locating the Gallinger Hospital, better known as the Washington Asylum Hospital, now at 19th and C streets southeast, on the forty-acre tract owned by the District at 14th and Upshur streets northwest. It was stated that \$15,000 had been appropriated by Congress for plans for the new building, with provision for its erection at a later date. It was suggested that the present property be sold by the District and a similar tract purchased on the outskirts of the city. Several speakers took part in the discussion, which resulted in the association concurring in the resolutions recently adopted by the Piney Branch Citizens' Association on this subject.

The association will also send a letter

Branch Citizens' Association on this subject.

The association will also send a letter to the District Commissioners urging the removal of the trolley poles on Georgia avenue from Florida avenue to the District line and the construction of the underground system instead.

At the instance of William Ramsay, the association adopted a resolution requesting Congress to appropriate

the newly elected members of Congress all the literature in possession of the committee calculated to enlighten them upon the relationship existing between the United States and the District of Columbia.

Through a resolution presented by Judge Charles W. Russell, the Post Office Department will be informed of the late delivery of mall in the vicinity of 14th and Kennedy streets, the mail it being claimed, not being derimperial angests.

mail, it being claimed, not being livered daily until 10 o'clock

TO SURVEY ST. MARY'S RIVER.

Government Engineers Plan Improvements in Potomac Tributary.

With a survey party aboard, the United The meeting, which was presided over by Louis P. Shoemaker, was one of the first to be held in a public school since the passage of the act by Congress last year permitting the use of schoolhouses for clvic purposes.

School Building Insanitary.

With a survey party aboard, the United States engineer service steamer Castle, Capt. Bell, left here yesterday for the passage of the act by Congress last year permitting the use of schoolhouses for clvic purposes.

School Building Insanitary.

While a number of resolutions were adopted during the evening, one of the matters which received the closest attention of the meeting was the existing conditions at the Brightwood School. The complaints of insanitary condition of the building, the lack of sufficient of the more important tributaries of the may more fittingly commune with his ancestral gods, offer them food and has a big lown name and in the name of his sub-York river. The St. Mary's river is one of the more important tributaries of the Potomac in Maryland, and has a big trade to this city and Baltimore. The steamers of the Maryland, Delaware and Virginia Railroad Company stop at landlings in St. Marys on every trip between this city and Baltimore. In addition to this, many barges load railroad ties and pulp wood in the stream. The St. Marys also ships fish and oysters to the Balti-

IS HELD AT KIOTO

Grand Thanksgiving Fete of Japan Is Begun at the Imperial Palace.

KIOTO, November 13 .- The Daijosai festival, or grand thanksgiving festi-val, the ceremony of offering sacred rice to the imperial ancestors and the gods and goddesses of heaven and earth, began today at the imperial palace. This ceremony is one of the three great rites of the coronation and

is of very ancient origin.
When Ninigino-mikoto, the grandson the association adopted a resolution requesting Congress to appropriate \$2,000,000 for the construction of a national convention hall to seat about 20,000 persons. The amphitheater to be completed by March 4, 1917, and constructed on the half-and-half plan.

John A. Saul urged the regrading and macadamizing of Farragut street from 13th street to Georgia avenue: Arkansas avenue from Emerson to Farragut streets, and Buchanan street from Georgia avenue to 13th street.

When Ninigino-mikoto, the grandson of the sun goddess, Amaterasu Omitami, as it is traditionally told, to Mount Takachiho, in Kyushu, and established imperial headquarters there, he sowed the seeds of rice plants and presented the first crop to the sun goddess before himself tasting the food. This was the very beginning of the Daijosai festival

and macadamizing of Farragut street from 13th street to Georgia avenue: Arkansas avenue from Emerson to Farragut streets, and Buchanan street from Georgia avenue to 13th street.

Wants Congress Enlightened.

Albert S. Gatley introduced a resolution, which was adopted, requesting the committee of one hundred now existing; in the District to send to all the newly elected members of Congress all the literature in possession of the committee calculated to enlighten them upon the relationship existing between the United States and

Offers First Crop of Reign.

The central idea is that the new emperor, invested with the suzerainty of the Land of Sacred Rice, offers to the imperial ancestors and the gods and

the first of lith and Kennedy streets, the mail, it being claimed, not being delivered daily until 10 o'clock and later. The association approved the suggestion to develop the water power at Great Falls, in a resolution introduced by Daniel O'C. Callaghan.

The resignation of Senator Blair Lee of Maryland as an active member of the association was read by Secretary Charles A. Proctor and upon its acceptance he was elected an honorary member. Richard W. Wheat, George J. Schlosser, W. H. Norris, B. R. Stickney, Edward M. Cleary and John H. Ray were elected active members of the organization.

Resolutions of regret were adopted on the death of Ira C. Day, who was elected a member at the recent meeting of the association. His death was announced at the meeting by A. S. Gatley.

The District Commissioners will be urged to extend the Piney Branch sewer to Quakenbos street, in the interest of public health. It was stated that at the present time it was a menace to the health of the school children in that vicinity.

TO SURVEY ST. MARY'S RIVER.

Preparatory to Harvest Festival.

Today's ceremony was preparatory to he grand harvest festival, which takes place tomorrow. It is called the "Chinkon-sai." Ita

jects.
The ceremony was held at the Yukiden and Suki-den halls, newly er in the compound of the palace. I purely a religious function and officiated by the court ritualists officiated by the court ritualists and attended by chief officials of the coronation committee. The emperor and crown prince did not participate.

BREAK YOURSELF OF THE LAXATIVE HABIT L AXATIVES and cathartics cause more constipation than they cure. Nujol is the modern treatment for constipation. It conforms in all essentials to the requirements of the mineral oil treatment as prescribed by its discoverer, Sir William Arbuthnot Lane. Nujol is odorless and tasteless, absolutely neutral, and is not digested or absorbed into the system. It acts merely as a mechanical lubricant. Nujol is not a drug. Its use will not give quick, temporary relief. But Nujol is a genuine remedy in that it relieves constipation in the most natural way by lubricating the lining of the intestines, softening the intestinal contents, and thus promoting healthy and normal bowel activity. A PURE WHITE MINERAL OIL Write for "The Rational Treatment of Constipation," an informative treatise on constipation. If you cannot get Nujol from your druggist, we will send you a pint bottle pre-paid to any point in the United States on receipt

of 75c-money order or stamps.

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a selection that just suits you. Telephone your Want Ads to The Star. Phone Main 2440.

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& Company at 603 Thirteenth Street, N. W. These new Wells Fargo headquarters are in keeping with the dignity and simplicity which Washingtonians so much admire. Here you may drive in your meter and despatch your packages to any corner of the land—or of the world. Here you may buy travelers checks and money-orders-and be given any of the many services of the express. You can also reach the office by telephone-Main 4400. This number may be used to summon a motor-truck

for your package, if you prefer. You are cordially invited to visit this office at your convenience. Its courtesy is available to you, quite as much

as its facilities.

W. C. JOHNSON, General Agent Wells Fargo & Co Express